



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

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Testimony
Representative Russell A. Morin
28th District, Wethersfield
HB 5495
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Chairman Musto, Chairman Jutila, and Honorable members of the Select Committee on Government Administration and Elections, I am here to testify in strong support of H.B. 5494 An Act Establishing French Canadian American Day. I would like to thank the chairmen and committee members for bringing this proposal forward for a public hearing.

I am here testifying before you today because I strongly believe that citizens of the state of Connecticut, who are of French Canadian heritage, should be granted the day of June 24th each year to celebrate their history and accomplishments. This ethnic group is the fifth largest in our state and they deserve to be recognized. There are many citizens in our state of French Canadian descent who have proven to be patriotic, in addition to contributing to our state through our educational system, the arts, and the Legislature. Additionally, these hard working immigrants contributed to the growth of our cities including Bristol and Hartford, through the early and mid-1900s. These hard working French Canadian Americans worked at companies and factories throughout the state including Bristol Brass, Whitney Chain, G. Fox, Sage-Allen, and New Departure auto parts manufacturer.

Furthermore, French Canadians instilled within their descendants strong family and community values that are still upheld by today's generation. I, myself, am a French Canadian American and adamantly encourage the committee to establish French Canadian American Day recognizing the achievements of my heritage.

I thank you for your consideration of this bill.